



Police Department

Scott Whitney, Chief of Police

Date: May 9, 2017

To: Contract Compliance Review Committee

From: Christopher Williams, Commander

Subject: Purchase of Police Equipment

The Oxnard Police Department is seeking to purchase three (3) automatic license plate reader (ALPR) camera systems from Vigilant Solutions by close of FY2016-17. The following information details how Vigilant Solutions was identified as both the best and only company that was able to meet the specific requirements of the Oxnard Police Department.

Automatic License Plate Readers

ALPRs have provided an invaluable resource to the Oxnard Police Department. In everyday patrol, ALPR equipped police units simply drive through the city as the cameras automatically record license plates, their GPS coordinates and the time. The software then compares each license plate read to a database comprised of wanted vehicles. Investigators also use ALPRs extensively in various investigations. Investigators have the ability to view all prior sightings of a particular vehicle as well as its GPS location, date and time of each sighting.

3M

The Oxnard Police Department used 3M in the past but our equipment has become obsolete. When SB 34 took effect in January of 2016 and mandated specific provisions each operator of ALPR systems had to abide by. One of the provisions was the ability to audit users who accessed the data. At the time the bill passed, 3M did not have an auditing capability. Many agencies, including LASO, Long Beach and Simi Valley, went with an SB 34 compliant ALPR company called Vigilant Solutions. Although 3M has recently come out with SB 34 compliant auditing, their customer base has shrunk dramatically and limited the amount of regional data we have access too. 3M also frequently sends out server updates to its clients. Agencies can only share ALPR data if their servers are running the same version. This creates problems with agencies that do not have a robust Information Technology Department who can stay on top of the updates; our city is one such agency. We routinely experienced delays with server updates and as a result was unable to communicate with the Ventura County Sheriff's Office (VCSO) ALPR server. 3M's customer service was unsatisfactory and as a result, we discontinued our services with 3M.

ALPR Migration

The Oxnard Police Department recognized a need for a new ALPR system. We performed a needs assessment on ALPR data and established the following essential requirements for a new ALPR vendor. The essential requirements were as follows:

1. Robust auditing capability that complies with SB 34.
2. Access to Southern California commercial ALPR data.
3. Analytics.
4. Analytics that access both law enforcement and commercial data at no extra cost.
5. Ability to be immediately notified of a suspect vehicle "hit" when a commercial ALPR camera captures the plate.
6. Ability to search a given area by year, make and/or model.
7. Access to ALPR data in all Ventura County cities.
8. Individual investigator access to ALPR data by cellular phone.

After establishing requirements, we looked at the three known ALPR vendors that provide services for law enforcement: 3M, Vigilant and ELSAG. Below is a comparison:

Company	Vigilant	3M	ELSAG
SB 34 Compliant	Yes	Yes	Yes
Analytics	Yes	Yes	Yes
Analytics access to LE and Commercial data, no extra cost	Yes	No	No
Commercial Data	Yes	No	No
Ability to search by Make, Model and Yr.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Notified of hit made by commercial ALPR camera	Yes	No	No
Access to ALPR data in all VC cities	Yes	No	No
Mobile Application	Yes	No	No

Vigilant Solutions

Vigilant Solutions offers law enforcement agencies not only the ability to capture ALPR data from patrol vehicles, it also gives agencies access to nationwide commercial data. Varieties of private companies capture commercial data with the deployment of ALPRs. They include repossession vehicles, tow trucks, access control sites and various toll roads. A recent comparison for the month of March 2017 showed Vigilant commercial data had 500,000 license plate reads throughout Ventura County. That same month, Vigilant captured 39 million license plates in Southern California alone. VCSO is currently testing Vigilant and have had several successes locating suspects in the Los Angeles area where commercial data was the only source capturing the plate.

Vigilant also offers free facial recognition software with its standard ALPR package. The software allows agencies to upload various suspect images taken from surveillance video and check against a data base of booking photos. Oxnard Police Department would be given the option to upload our booking photos into their database.

The Oxnard Police Department has been interested in facial recognition software that allows us to identify suspects from surveillance photos for many years. Vigilant gives the Oxnard Police Department the ability to obtain the capability at no cost.

Based on the above information Vigilant is the only company we are willing to contract with. The Oxnard Police Department would like to enter into a three year agreement with Vigilant Solutions to purchase three (3) ALPR camera systems. The cost to purchase three (3) ALPR camera systems is \$77,915.20. \$25,000 of the initial cost will be paid by the city council approved Asset Forfeiture Fund FY2016-17 and the remaining balance of \$47,980.00 will be paid through the Gang Violence Suppression (GVS grant). The service fee for years two and three is \$34,720 per year. The agreement will not exceed \$150,000.